IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient ~~with~~ having an acute myocardial infarction comprising:

administering to ~~the~~ said patient an effective amount of a formulation comprising an ~~therapeutic~~ agent encapsulated within a suitable carrier from 0.03-1 micron in size, wherein the formulation reduces a myocardial zone of infarct, thereby minimizing the damage ~~following~~ to said patient resulting from said ~~the~~ acute myocardial infarction.

Claims 2. - 3 (cancelled)

4. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation inhibits blood monocytes or tissue macrophages.

5. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation depletes blood monocytes or tissue macrophages.

6. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation has a size range of 0.1-1.0 microns.

7. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation has a size range of 0.1-0.5 microns.

8. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation has a size range of 0.1-0.3 microns.

9. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation has a size range of 0.1-0.18 microns.

10. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the agent is an intra-cellular inhibitor.

Claims 11. - 15 (cancelled)

16. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the formulation can primarily enter a cell via phagocytosis.

17. (original) The method as in one of claims 1-3, wherein the agent is a bisphosphonate.

18. (cancelled)

19. (original) The method according to claim 17, wherein the bisphosphonate is selected from the group consisting of clodronate, etidronate, tiludronate, pamidronate, alendronate and risendronate.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the suitable carrier is a liposome.

Claims 21. – 22. (cancelled)

23. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein inhibition of said monocytes or macrophages occurs through phagocytosis of the formulation.

24. (original) The method according to claim 5, wherein depletion of said monocytes or macrophages occurs through phagocytosis of the formulation.

25. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient having an acute myocardial infarction followed by myocardial necrosis comprising:

administering to ~~an individual in need thereof~~ said patient an effective amount of a formulation comprising a bisphosphonate encapsulated within a suitable carrier from 0.03-1 micron in size, thereby minimizing damage resulting from the myocardial necrosis to said patient.

26. (previously presented) The method according to claim 25, wherein the suitable carrier is a liposome.

Claims 27. - 30 (cancelled)

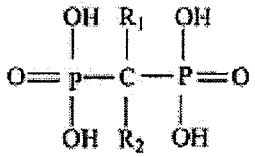
31. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~claims~~ 25~~, 27 or 29~~, wherein the formulation inhibits blood monocytes or tissue macrophages.

32. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~claims~~ 25~~, 27 or 29~~, wherein the formulation depletes blood monocytes or tissue macrophages.

33. (original) The method according to claim 31, wherein inhibition of said monocytes or macrophages occurs through phagocytosis of the formulation.

34. (original) The method according to claim 32, wherein depletion of said monocytes or macrophages occurs through phagocytosis of the formulation.

35. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~claims~~ 1~~, 2 or 3~~, wherein said agent has formula (I):



(I)

wherein R_1 is H, OH or halogen group; and

R_2 is halogen; linear or branched C_1–C_{10} alkyl or C_2-C_{10} alkenyl, optionally substituted by heteroaryl or heterocyclyl C_1–C_{10} alkylamino or C_3–C_8 cycloalkylamino,

where the amino may be a primary, secondary or tertiary amine; -NHY where Y is hydrogen, C_3–C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl; or –SZ, where Z is chlorosubstituted phenyl or pyridinyl.

Claims 36. - 38 (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1~~, 2, 3,~~ or 25~~, 27 or 29~~, wherein the formulation is administered during reperfusion.

40. (currently amended) A method of treating a patient in need thereof comprising administering to ~~the~~ said patient an effective amount of a formulation comprising an ~~therapeutic~~ agent encapsulated within a suitable carrier from 0.03-1 micron in size, wherein ~~the~~ said formulation is capable of reducing a myocardial zone of infarct and is administered immediately prior to or during a procedure where an acute myocardial infarction in said patient is probable.

41. (original) The method according to claim 40, wherein the procedure is a percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty.

Claims 42-70. (cancelled)

71. (new) A method of treating a patient having an acute myocardial infarction followed by myocardial necrosis comprising:

administering to said patient an effective amount of a formulation comprising an agent encapsulated within a suitable carrier from 0.03-1 micron in size, thereby minimizing damage resulting from the myocardial necrosis to said patient.

72. (new) The method according to claim 71 wherein the treatment method improves ventricular remodeling.